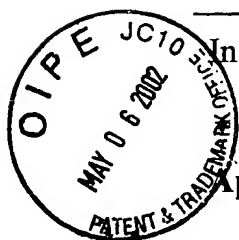


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Peter Osypka

Application No.: 10/062,114

Confirmation No.: 9980

Filed: January 31, 2002

For: IMPLANTABLE STENT

Group: Not Yet Known

Examiner: Not Yet Known

Our File: SMB-PT041
(P 02 048 M US)

Date: May 2, 2002

Handwritten signatures and initials, including 'b' and 'A'.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as noted in detail below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Handwritten mark resembling a stylized 'a' or '3'.

3. (Amended) Stent according to claim 1, wherein the punchings (6) on the two edges that are interdigitated with each other by means of tongues (7) are generally arranged on a line running approximately axially and are acted upon by an axially and/or radially oriented holding element.

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